

HARRY TEAGUE
2ND DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1007 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2365
FAX: (202) 225-9599
<http://teague.house.gov>



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3102

COMMITTEES:
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

WATER, RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
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HEALTH

April 10, 2009

Dear Friend:

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is crafting a new surface transportation authorization to replace the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which expires on September 30, 2009. I am a member of the committee and look forward to using that position to advocate on behalf of New Mexico's surface transportation needs.

This legislation is a six-year bill that authorizes our nation's surface transportation programs. The majority of the Federal funds in the bill will be allocated by formula, with the state departments of transportation, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Regional Planning Organizations, and local transit agencies determining which projects will be funded.

Although the current Federal-state-local partnership is of considerable use, not all communities are treated equally in the decision-making process. To compliment the work done by these agencies, and to ensure communities are full partners in these important programs, a small percentage of the overall investment of the authorization bill will be available for Member-designated High Priority Projects. **Because I want to make sure that the transportation needs of communities and rural areas in New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District are addressed with the investment provided in the authorization legislation, my office is accepting requests for High Priority Projects.**

At this point, it is not certain High Priority Projects will be included in the final bill because it is not known what funding will be available for surface transportation programs. We are currently faced with a very low budget number for surface transportation programs and while the Committee is planning to include Member-designated High Priority Projects in the final authorization legislation, that could very well change if we cannot find ways to generate sufficient revenue to invest in our country's critical surface transportation infrastructure needs.

Please understand that resources are limited and the needs of New Mexico communities far outstrip what funding might be included in the legislation for projects. Therefore, I will be unable to ask for funding for all project requests made to my office. If you request more than one High Priority Project, you must rank them in priority order.

The deadline for submitting High Priority Project requests to my Congressional office is *no later than Friday, April 24th*. Please fill out the attached project request form and e-mail it – along with at least one local or state letter of support for the project – to Peter Ambler of my staff

200 EAST BROADWAY, SUITE 200
HOBBBS, NM 88240
PHONE: (575) 393-0510
FAX: (575) 393-0026

DISTRICT OFFICES:
135 WEST GRIGGS AVENUE
LAS CRUCES, NM 88001
PHONE: (575) 522-3908
FAX: (575) 523-3799

111 SCHOOL OF MINES ROAD
SOCORRO, NM 87801
PHONE: (575) 835-8719
FAX: (575) 835-8931

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at peter.ambler@mail.house.gov by April 24th. Please note, as required by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, all requests must be made public on my Congressional website. If you have questions please contact Peter Ambler in my Washington, DC office at (202) 225-2365.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry Teague". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Harry" and "Teague" being capitalized and prominent.

Harry Teague
Member of Congress